

## Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-07 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PM-03 DODE-00 IO-03 L-02 DRC-01

SP-01 /059 W

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R 050500Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8376

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USDOCOSOUTH

USEUCOM

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NY

S E C R E T NICOSIA 576

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR

SUBJECT: GREEK INTENTIONS IN CYPRUS

REF: ATHENS 2034

SUMMARY: OSORIO AND TURKS SHARE CURRENT GOCYPRUS UNEASINESS  
AT WHAT ATHENS IS UP TO. WE URGE THAT EMBASSY ATHENS REMIND  
APPROPRIATE QUARTERS OF DANGERS TO THEIR INTERESTS AND OURS  
OF EFFORT TO MAINTAIN TENSIONS IN CYPRUS. END SUMMARY

1. SUSPICIONS AS TO WHAT ATHENS IS UP TO HAVE RISEN TO A  
CRESCENDO IN NICOSIA, FROM A REMARKABLE SPECTRUM OF SOURCES  
(OSORIO, TURKISH AMB, SOVIET EMBASSY, PREM CHAND, ASIDE  
FROM MAKARIOS, FOREIGN MINISTRY AND CENTER AND LEFTIST PRESS).  
OSORIO AND GREEK EMBASSY TREAT RECENT REPORTED DELIVERY OF  
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AMMUNITION AT LIMASSOL AS ESTABLISHED FACT, AND WE ARE

SUSPICIOUS OF GREEK EMBASSY'S EFFORT TO EXPLAIN THAT IT IS DESTINED FOR GREEK CONTINGENT.

2. PERHAPS THE MOST CHARITABLE GUESS IS FOREIGN MINISTER DIRGEN VENIAMIN'S ESTIMATE (A-41) THAT ATHENS MAY SIMPLY WANT TO KEEP SITUATION HERE IN THE AIR, AVOID ANY PROGRESS TOWARD SOLUTION, AND THAT ARMED GREEK INTERVENTION IS LESS LIKELY.

3. TURKISH AMB AMBIVALENT CONCERNING RECENT SOVIET DEMARCHES, ANNOYED THAT IT SEEMS TO HAVE STRENGTHENED MAKARIOS' HAND, BUT RECOGNIZING ALSO THAT PRINCIPAL EFFECT OF A SOVIET REMINDER OF ITS INTEREST IN AN INDEPENDENT CYPRUS WILL BE TO DISSUADE ATHENS FROM MISADVENTURES. HE PROFESSES UNDERTAINTY WHETHER ATHENS WANTS TO CONTROL MAKARIOS TO HELP OR HINDER THE TALKS, BUT HE AND OSORIO BOTH POINT TO GREEK ACTIONS IN 1967 AND 1972, BASED UPON ERRONEOUS ASSUMPTIONS AS TO WHAT THEY CAN DO IN CYPRUS. BOTH REMARKED ON DIFFICULTY OF TELLING WHO IS RUNNING GREEK GOVT, AND POSSIBILITY THAT NEW MILITARY GROUP HAS YET TO LEARN LESSONS PAPADOPOULOS LEARNED SO HARD.

4. OSORIO (MUST BE PROTECTED) HAS PICKED UP STORY THAT LAGACOS RECENTLY CALLED IN ESEA LEADERS AND MADE STRONG PITCH FOR THEM TO MOVE INTO OVERT POLITICAL ARENA AND AWAY FROM COVERT ACTIVITY. HE ASKED FOR WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM THEM THAT THEY WOULD DO SO. SEVERAL DAYS LATER, NATIONAL GUARD DEPUTY COMMANDER PAPADAKIS CALLED THE LEADERS AND COUNTERMANDED LAGACOS' INSTRUCTION, SAYING ON NO RPT NO ACCOUNT SHOULD THEY SEND SUCH A LETTER TO LAGACOS. OSORIO HAD ALSO PICKED UP EARLIER STORIES WHICH WE HAD HEARD, THAT LAGACOS WAS ALMOST FORCED OUT AT PAPADAKIS' INSTANCE ABOUT A MONTH AGO, WAS SAVED ONLY BECAUSE OF TETENES' SUPPORT. (OSORIO NOW THINKS THAT IF TETENES' POWER LASTS, LAGACOS WILL BE PROTECTED.) WHETHER OSORIO'S STORY IS CORRECT OR NOT, THE CONFLICT BETWEEN LAGACOS AND PAPADAKIS IS BECOMING WELL-KNOWN, AND PRESUMABLY REFLECTS THE DIFFERING DRIVES IN ATHENS' POLICY.

5. AMONG INSIDERS HERE, CONCERN AS TO ATHENS' INTENTIONS IS CONSIDERABLY MORE DISTURBING THAN CURRENT SECRET

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MINI-CRISIS (NICOSIA 575) OVER SUSPENSION OF INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS.

6. COMMENT: WE FIND A GENERAL AND RATHER REMARKABLE CONSENSUS THAT NOBODY'S INTEREST WOULD BE SERVED BY AN EFFORT BY IOANNIDES TO PURSUE HIS FEUD WITH MAKARIOS. WHILE WE RECOMMENDED AGAINST USG ASSOCIATING ITSELF WITH RECENT SOVIET DEMARCHE, WE ARE

INCREASINGLY CONVINCED OF IMPORTANCE OF CALLING TO THE ATTENTION  
OF APPROPRIATE PEOPLE IN ATHENS THE DAMAGE TO THEIR INTERESTS  
AND OURS WHICH WOULD PROBABLY RESULT FROM ANY EFFORT TO MAINTAIN  
TENSIONS IN CYPRUS (NICOSIA 453 AND A-41).

7. IT IS OF ONLY LIMITED USE TO MAKE THESE POINTS TO THE  
GREEK EMBASSY HERE, SINCE WE ARE PROBABLY PREACHING TO  
THE CONVINCED.  
GRANT

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FEDERATION, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, POLITICAL STABILITY, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974NICOSI00576  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740077-0761  
**From:** NICOSIA  
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**Line Count:** 124  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** ATHENS 2034  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 APR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <25-Sep-2002 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GREEK INTENTIONS IN CYPRUS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CY, GR, TU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005